

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Proposal To
The National Endowment for the Humanities
Challenge Grant Program

Submitted by
Leslie C. Berlowitz, Executive Officer

April 24, 2003

AMERICAN ACADEMY
OF ARTS & SCIENCES

April 25, 2003

Mr. Steven Ross
Director
Office of Challenge Grants
National Endowment for the Humanities
Room 420
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Mr. Ross:

On behalf of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, I am pleased to submit the enclosed proposal for a National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant. The Academy requests a grant of \$600,000 from the NEH that would be matched by a nonfederal contribution of \$1,800,000 for a total of \$2,400,000.

As noted in our proposal, the Academy has made historic contributions to the humanities by helping to establish such institutions as the National Humanities Center and the American Council of Learned Societies. Over the last several years, after convening humanities leaders from around the nation to address challenges to the field, the Academy launched its *Initiative for the Humanities and Culture*. The Initiative has the following goals: 1) to foster research on the evolution of the humanities in America, both retrospectively and prospectively, within a changing academic and cultural environment; 2) to develop more systematic information about the state of the humanities in order to assess its strengths and provide tools for continuing understanding of its evolution; 3) to include a new generation of scholars in our work through the Visiting Scholars program and 4) to communicate the results of this research to a wider audience through lectures, meetings and publications.

We now have reached a point where a major endowment will be crucial to our goal of creating a permanent infrastructure for advancing our humanities projects. A Challenge Grant from the NEH would assist us immeasurably in building support for key project elements. The largest portion of the endowment would support the Visiting Scholars program in the humanities. In fall 2002, the Academy welcomed an inaugural class of five Visiting Scholars in the humanities, and we are currently inviting a second class, including both postdoctoral scholars and junior faculty, who will work on topics that complement the Humanities Initiative agenda. We have designed this program to encourage extensive interaction between the scholars and the Academy's senior Fellows.

PRESIDENT
Erica Meyer Sparks
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Julie Cohen Berlowitz
VICE PRESIDENT
Louis W. Cabot
SECRETARY
Julio Bizzi
TREASURER
Robert S. Lynch
EDITOR
Steven M. Lewis
VICE PRESIDENT,
SOUTHWEST CENTER
Arthur Dworkin
VICE PRESIDENT,
EASTERN CENTER
John R. Holmes

Mr. Steven Ross
April 25, 2003
Page 2

Each year a senior Fellow of the Academy will also be in residence for a period of time pursuing his or her own humanities-related research. Visiting Scholars will also have opportunities to participate in seminars and other programs co-sponsored by Harvard University and seven other area university partners and they will have access to Harvard libraries as well as those of other area institutions.

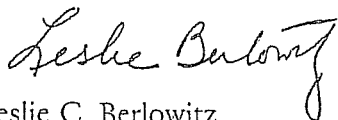
Endowment funds will also support a new humanities lecture series at the Academy, along with meetings, conferences, and special projects connected to the Humanities Initiative. Because we are in the early years of the Initiative and the Visiting Scholars program, a portion of the NEH grant will be used to attract matching funds that will underwrite the program's operations. And finally, we will designate part of the grant for renovation of a portion of the Academy's 2nd floor, so that we can accommodate the Visiting Scholars and the Academy staff for the Humanities Initiative in individual offices.

The Visiting Scholars program and the Humanities Initiative are well underway and we have received sufficient funding to launch these activities. I am convinced that the time could not be more advantageous for the Academy to endow projects in the humanities. I am happy to report that in the last several months we have received humanities-related grants from the Rockefeller and Annenberg Foundations, and two individual donors in anticipation of the Challenge Grant. The Visiting Scholars program is also receiving start-up support from a newly formed consortium of forty-one University Affiliates. With the help of the NEH, we are confident that we will be able to attract significant new support for both the Humanities Initiative and its Visiting Scholars program. The governing Council of the Academy has identified these projects as institutional priorities, and has approved additional staff and funding to facilitate their growth.

Throughout this century, the Academy has been contributing to the development of the humanities—perhaps no more actively than in the last twenty years. I believe strongly that a Challenge Grant from the NEH would allow the Academy to continue to serve and advance work in the humanities that will generate significant and sustainable benefits throughout this country.

I hope that you will look favorably upon our request. Please contact me if you have questions about the Academy or our Challenge Grant proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Leslie C. Berlowitz". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Leslie C. Berlowitz

APPLICATION COVER SHEET FOR NEH GRANT PROGRAMS

PROJECT DIRECTOR OR INDIVIDUAL APPLICANT

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☒ Ms. ☐ Dr. ☐ Prof.

Major Field of Study: _____

Name (last, first, middle): Berlowitz, Leslie C.

Address: American Academy of Arts and Sciences

136 Irving Street

City: Cambridge

State: MA

Zip Code: 02138

Email: lberlowitz@amacad.org

Telephone (work): (617) 576-5010

(home): (b) (6)

Fax: (617) 576-5055

2. INSTITUTION INFORMATION

Name: American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Address: 136 Irving Street

City: Cambridge

State: MA

Zip Code: 02138

Employer ID number: (b) (4)

3. TYPE OF APPLICANT (check one, as appropriate)

☒ Institution

☐ Individual

Type: Scholarly Society

Citizenship: ☐ US ☐ Other

Status: ☒ Private Nonprofit

Country: _____

☐ Unit of State/Local Gov't

Month/Year: _____

*Fellowships, Stipends, &
Faculty Research Awards*

☐ University ☐ College Teacher
Teacher Indep. Scholar

☐ Jr. Scholar ☐ Sr. Scholar

4. GRANT PROGRAM: Challenge Grants

(Please refer to the application instructions for a list of program names.)

5. TYPE OF APPLICATION: ☒ New ☐ Supplement Current Grant Number(s): _____

6. PROJECT FIELD CODE: U8

7. PROJECT TITLE: Support for Humanities Endowment and Infrastructure

8. PROJECT DESCRIPTION (use only space provided):

The Academy seeks a Challenge Grant from the NEH which would be used for the following purposes: 1) creation of a humanities endowment that will support diverse humanities-related activities at the Academy, including: stipends for Visiting Scholars; a humanities lecture series; conferences, meetings, and special projects; and staff dedicated to the Humanities Initiative; 2) support for renovation of the Academy's House in Cambridge to accommodate offices for the Humanities Initiative staff and Visiting Scholars; and 3) a small amount of bridging funds to offset expenses of the Humanities Initiative during its initial phase.

9. REQUESTED GRANT PERIOD:

From: December 2001

To: July 2007

Applicant Name: American Academy of Arts and Sciences Project Title: Support for Humanities Endowment and Ir

10. WE THE PEOPLE GRANT INITIATIVE Check the box if your proposal responds to the initiative. ☐

11. PROJECT FUNDING FOR INSTITUTIONS

Programs other than Challenge Grants

a. Outright Funds \$ _____
b. Federal Match \$ _____
c. Total from NEH \$ _____
d. Cost Sharing \$ _____
e. Total Project Costs \$ _____

Challenge Grants applicants only

a. Fiscal Year #1 \$ 250,000
b. Fiscal Year #2 \$ 200,000
c. Fiscal Year #3 \$ 150,000
d. Total from NEH \$ 600,000
e. Non-Federal Match \$ 1,800,000
f. Total \$ 2,400,000

12. ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Will this proposal be submitted to another NEH division, government agency, or private entity for funding?

☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, indicate where and when: _____

13. GRANT ADMINISTRATOR INFORMATION FOR INSTITUTIONS

☒ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Dr. ☐ Prof.

Title: Director of Finance and Administration

Name (last, first, middle): Deleo, Kevin

Institution: American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Address: 136 Irving Street

City: Cambridge

State: MA

Zip: 02138

Telephone: (617) 576-5029

Fax: (617) 576-5051

Email: kdeleo@amacad.org

14. FELLOWSHIPS AND SUMMER STIPENDS APPLICANTS

List the name, department, and institutional affiliation of your referees.

a. _____
b. _____

Summer Stipends applicants only: Provide the name, title, and signature of nominating official.

Printed name: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____

15. CERTIFICATION

By signing and submitting this application, the individual applicant or authorizing official is providing the applicable certifications as set forth in these guidelines.

Printed name of individual applicant / authorizing official: Leslie C. Berlowitz

Title of individual applicant / authorizing official: Executive Officer

Signature: Leslie Berlowitz Date: 4/24/03

For NEH use only:

date received:

application #:

initials:

LESLIE BERLOWITZ

Business Address

American Academy of Arts and Sciences
Norton's Woods, 136 Irving Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 576-5010
(617) 567-5055 fax

Home Address

(b) (6)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Executive Officer

1996 - present

American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Officer and administrative leader of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, one of the nation's oldest learned societies. Working with a distinguished Council of Fellows, the Executive Officer provides intellectual vision and continuity for governance, management and programmatic activities. Cultivate coalitions among Fellows from different disciplines in the launching of new studies, often in anticipation of public policy implications of recent scholarly findings. Oversee professional and research staff responsible for programs, resource development, public affairs, publications, finances, physical facilities, and auxiliary services both at the national headquarters in Cambridge and for the regional centers in the Midwest and West.

Vice President for Institutional Advancement

1991-1996

Deputy Vice President for Academic Affairs

1988-1991

New York University

~~Founder and Director, The Humanities Council~~

~~1977-1996~~

Founder and Director, Faculty Resource Network

1985-1996

National Director, AmeriCorps, Project SafetyNet

1995-1996

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

1984-1988

Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs

1981-1984

Director, Academic Program Development

1973-1981

New York University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of English
New York University

1967-1996

PUBLICATIONS

America in Theory (New York: Oxford University Press, 1988), co-edited with Denis Donaghue and Louis Menand.

Greenwich Village: Culture and Counterculture (New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1990), co-edited with Richard Eric Beard.

The Limits of Desire: Critical Reflections on the Novels of Bernard Malamud. (Book manuscript in progress).

EDUCATION

D. Phil. 1969	English	New York University - Department of English
------------------	---------	---

M.A. 1967	English	Columbia University - Department of English
--------------	---------	---

B.A. (with honors) 1965	English	New York University - University College
----------------------------	---------	--

LESLIE COHEN BERLOWITZ
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Leslie Berlowitz is the Executive Officer of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a 220-year-old international learned society headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She is the first woman to serve in this post. Prior to coming to the Academy, she served as Vice President for Academic Advancement at New York University, where she was responsible for academic development and institutional initiatives. A member of the President's Council she chaired the University's Academic Affairs council and co-chaired its Humanities Council which she created. She also developed the first national network of historically black and predominately white institutions, a consortium of over three dozen colleges and universities for which she received the first TIAA-CREF Theodore M. Hesburg Award for Faculty Development. A gifted administrator and effective fundraiser she has served on numerous panels to advance research and faculty development issues in higher education. At the Academy she has worked closely with Fellows to develop major new studies and programs, to balance budgets, to secure new resources and to revitalize this institution as it works to become a more prominent national and international organization.

Her training is in American Literature, and she has co-edited *America in Theory* with Denis Donoghue and Louis Menand and *Greenwich Village: Culture and Counterculture* with Richard Eric Beard. She has served on the boards of a number of national professional associations, including the Council on International Education Exchange, the New York Institute for the Humanities, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Minority Medical Education Committee and as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Humanities. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Massachusetts Institute for Psychoanalysis, the Corporation of Yaddo, and the National Humanities Alliance, among others.